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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/595,030	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SATO ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> JAMES HWA	<b>Art Unit</b> 2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 August 2008.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant has amended claims 1, 4-7 and 9 in the amendment filed on 08/05/2008. Claim 11 has been cancelled. Claims 1-10 are pending in this Office Action.

### **Response to Arguments**

2. Applicant's arguments that, "the priority date of present application is the filing date of July 10, 2003 of the PCT Application, such a priority date is clearly earlier than the filing date of May 5, 2004 of Johnson's provisional application No. 60/567,780. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Johnson et al. is not qualified as prior art against the claimed invention" filed on 08/05/2008.

Examiner agrees that Application's priority date is clearly earlier than the filing date of May 5, 2004 of Johnson's provisional application No. 60/567,780. Thus, the final rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is withdrawn and new ground rejection is set forth below.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101**

3. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.101 because the language of the claim raises a question as to whether the claim is directed merely to an abstract idea that is not tied to a technological art, environment or machine which would result in a practice application producing a concrete, useful, and tangible result to form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C 101.

The claims 1-3 lack the necessary physical articles or objects to constitute a machine or a manufacture within the meaning of 35 USC 101. They are clearly not a series of steps or act to be a process nor are they a combination of chemical

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compounds to be a composition of matter. As such, they fail to fall within a statutory category. They are, at best, functional descriptive material *per se*.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tange (US Patent Application No. 2002/0120775 A1, hereinafter “Tange”).

As to claim 1, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

“An information registration device” as an object provide a browser apparatus, an address registering method, and a browser system in which the classification and registration of an address corresponding to a data supplied from a server can be carried out by a user operating a simpler procedure without troublesome rules (page 1, paragraph 0015).

“A display unit displaying a screen including a common registration area for registering a plurality of types of displayed information which, would be registered in a different way by a tool corresponding to each type of information as unclassified information” as a user accesses through a browser apparatus to a desired homepage of a server. Then, the homepage of the server appears in a homepage display area of a window displayed on a display unit of the browser apparatus (page 1, paragraph 0008;

see also element 32 of figure 2). When a desired one of the classifications in the list of classifications is selected, the address of the homepage being accessed and displayed in the address display area is registered to the classification (page 1, paragraph 0012).

The list of classifications includes a number of the classifications predetermined and registered as well as names or addresses of the homepages which have been unclassified and unregistered (page 1, paragraph 0011).

The user first enters a keyword to access the Internet provider and types the address of a desired homepage to be viewed through the input device (page 2, paragraph 0039). A list of classifications including various categories of sports, news, entertainments, and others is determined by a user for ease of the browsing of homepages and used for assigning a desired classification to the address of each homepage for registration (page 1, paragraph 0006; A plurality of types of displayed information see element 39 of figure 4).

a mouse manipulated by a user for controlling the browser apparatus through the GUI, a modem for communication with a server which provides accessible image data over the Internet, and an address storage for storing the address of each homepage which is composed of image data and/or text data (page 2, paragraph 0034).

"A registration unit registering specified information in a storage unit as the unclassified information when a user performs a drag-and-drop operation of specifying arbitrary information on the screen and moving the information in the registration area" as upon receiving an input signal from the mouse operated by the user saves the address of the homepage in display in the address storage in association with a

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corresponding one of the classifications predetermined by the user. When the pointer controlled by the user operating the mouse is driven by drag-and-drop with no relation of the classification in the pull down menu, the address of the homepage is not classified but stored in the address storage (page 3, paragraph 0048).

the steps of displaying a data supplied from a server in a first region of the screen of a display unit and classifications for the data in a second region of the same, and carrying out a drag-and-drop action to shift from any desired point in the first region to one of the classifications displayed in the second region so that an address corresponding to the data displayed in the first region is stored into a memory in association with its classification (page 1, paragraph 0017).

A pointer operated by the mouse is also displayed over the browser window. The user can operate the mouse to move the pointer to a desired location on the GUI screen for selectively carrying out the various functions (page 2, paragraph 0042).

As to claim 2, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"An access unit accessing the plurality of types of information registered as the unclassified information in timing different from a process of said registration unit, wherein said display unit displays a reading screen of the unclassified information, and the access unit classifies the unclassified information for each category, according to a user's instruction" as a list of classifications including various categories of sports, news, entertainments, and others is determined by a user for ease of the browsing of homepages and used for assigning a desired classification to the address of each

homepage for registration (page 1, paragraph 0006; A plurality of types of displayed information see element 39 of figure 4).

The CPU upon receiving an input signal from the mouse operated by the user saves the address of the homepage in display in the address storage in association with a corresponding one of the classifications predetermined by the user. When the pointer controlled by the user operating the mouse is driven by drag-and-drop with no relation of the classification in the pull down menu, the address of the homepage is not classified but stored in the address storage (page 3, paragraph 0048).

As to claim 3, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"The plurality of types of displayed information include a network address or a text of information in a digital network, a file in a local disk, or an icon on the screen" as the browser window includes a homepage display area, an address display area, and a file display area. The file display area is provided for displaying a tree of files and directories assigned to the hard disk (page 4, paragraph 0067; see also elements 10, 11 13 and 22 of figure 14). At the time, data of the homepages such as a list of homepage names stored is displayed beside the classification icons in the pull down menu (page 3, paragraph 004; see also icon element 16 of figure 6).

As to claim 4, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"A computer-readable storage medium on which is recorded a program for enabling a computer to execute a process" as upon receiving a command for starting

the browser apparatus is entered through the mouse or an input device, the CPU reads a corresponding one of the file programs stored in the hard disk and transfers it to a random access memory for execution of the program. The program may be saved on any appropriate recording medium such as a floppy disk (page 2, paragraph 0036).

"Displaying a screen including a common registration area for registering a plurality of types of displayed information which, would be registered in a different way by a tool corresponding to each type of information as unclassified information" as a user accesses through a browser apparatus to a desired homepage of a server. Then, the homepage of the server appears in a homepage display area of a window displayed on a display unit of the browser apparatus (page 1, paragraph 0008; see also element 32 of figure 2).

The user first enters a keyword to access the Internet provider and types the address of a desired homepage to be viewed through the input device (page 2, paragraph 0039). A list of classifications including various categories of sports, news, entertainments, and others is determined by a user for ease of the browsing of homepages and used for assigning a desired classification to the address of each homepage for registration (page 1, paragraph 0006; A plurality of types of displayed information see element 39 of figure 4).

a mouse manipulated by a user for controlling the browser apparatus through the GUI, a modem for communication with a server which provides accessible image data over the Internet, and an address storage for storing the address of each homepage which is composed of image data and/or text data (page 2, paragraph 0034).

"Registering specified information in a storage unit as the unclassified information when a user performs a drag and-drop operation of specifying arbitrary information on the screen and moving the information in the registration area" as upon receiving an input signal from the mouse operated by the user saves the address of the homepage in display in the address storage in association with a corresponding one of the classifications predetermined by the user. When the pointer controlled by the user operating the mouse is driven by drag-and-drop with no relation of the classification in the pull down menu, the address of the homepage is not classified but stored in the address storage (page 3, paragraph 0048).

As to claim 5, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"The computer registers screen objects including a network address or a text of information in a digital network, a file in a local disk, or an icon, on the screen as the unclassified information" as the browser window includes a homepage display area, an address display area, and a file display area. The file display area is provided for displaying a tree of files and directories assigned to the hard disk (page 4, paragraph 0067; see also elements 10, 11 13 and 22 of figure 14). When the pointer controlled by the user operating the mouse is driven by drag-and-drop with no relation of the classification in the pull down menu, the address of the homepage is not classified but stored in the address storage. At the time, data of the homepages such as a list of homepage names stored is displayed beside the classification icons in the pull down menu (page 3, paragraph 0048).

As to claim 6, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"When the moved information coincides with already registered information, the computer accepts the moved information by handling the already registered information as an entity for presenting rank of an unclassified information recommendation or a registration tendency of the moved information and outputs no inquiry message to the user" as any desired item in the homepage display area or the address display area is moved to a corresponding one of the icons by a drag-and-drop action of the user. The CPU saves the address of the homepage being displayed into the address storage in association with its classification determined by the user. When the pointer is shifted by the drag-and-drop action to any location in the browser window but not of the classification, the address of the homepage in display is unclassified and saved in the address storage (page 3, paragraph 0060).

For registering the address of a homepage being displayed in the homepage display area by the user using the window, any item in the homepage display area or the address display area is selected and moved by operating the mouse to a corresponding one of the folder icons in the file display area which represents the target directory. Accordingly, the browser apparatus saves the address of the homepage displayed in the address display area into the address storage in association with its classification (page 4, paragraph 0069).

As to claim 7, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"Wherein even when the moved information could not be registered, the computer performs no error indication accompanying an interaction with the user" as an object is to provide a browser apparatus, an address registering method, and a browser system in which the classification and registration of an address corresponding to a data supplied from a server can be carried out by a user operating a simpler procedure without troublesome rules (page 1, paragraph 0015).

As to claim 8, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"Accessing the plurality of types of information registered as the unclassified information in timing different from the registering the specified information" as the CPU upon receiving an input signal from the mouse operated by the user saves the address of the homepage in display in the address storage in association with a corresponding one of the classifications predetermined by the user. When the pointer controlled by the user operating the mouse is driven by drag-and-drop with no relation of the classification in the pull down menu, the address of the homepage is not classified but stored in the address storage. At the time, data of the homepages such as a list of homepage names stored is displayed beside the classification icons in the pull down menu (page 3, paragraph 0048).

"Displaying a reading screen of the unclassified information array in order of registration time; classifying the unclassified information for each category, according to a user' instruction" as a list of classifications including various categories of sports, news, entertainments, and others is determined by a user for ease of the browsing of

homepages and used for assigning a desired classification to the address of each homepage for registration (page 1, paragraph 0006).

As to claim 9, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"A computer-readable storage medium on which is recorded a program for enabling a computer to execute a process" as a browser system may be applied to a recording medium which carries browser software enabling the address registering method (page 4, paragraph 0072).

"Storing arbitrary information in a first storage unit storing information classified for each category, when a user performs an operation of specifying a category and registering the information" as upon receiving an input signal from the mouse operated by the user saves the address of the homepage in display in the address storage in association with a corresponding one of the classifications predetermined by the user. When the pointer controlled by the user operating the mouse is driven by drag-and-drop with no relation of the classification in the pull down menu, the address of the homepage is not classified but stored in the address storage (page 3, paragraph 0048).

"Storing specified information in a second storage unit collectively storing unclassified information when a user performs a drag-and-drop operation of specifying arbitrary information and moving the information in a common registration area for registering a plurality of types of different information as the unclassified information; and wherein, said plurality of types of different information would be registered in a different way by a tool corresponding to each type of information" as a classification unit

for assigning at least one of classifications to the data supplied from the server, a memory for storing an address corresponding to the data as well as the classification determined by the classification unit, a display unit for displaying the data supplied from the server in a first region of the screen and the classification of the data in a second region of the same, a command unit responsive to the action of a user for controlling the location of a pointer displayed on the screen of the display unit, and a control unit responsive to shift of the pointer from the first region to the second region of the screen by the command unit for storing an address corresponding to the data displayed in the first region into the memory in association with its classification displayed in the second region (page 1, paragraph 0018).

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

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consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tange (US Patent Application No. 2002/0120775 A1) as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Saylor et al. (US Patent No. 6,501,832 B1, hereinafter "Saylor").

As to claim 10, Tange teaches the claimed limitations:

"Evaluating the plurality of types of information registered as the unclassified information" as when a classification button is enabled by the user, a list of classifications appears. The list of classifications includes a number of the classifications predetermined and registered as well as names or addresses of the homepages which have been unclassified and unregistered (page 1, paragraph 0011).

"Selecting information suitable for a specific user from the evaluated unclassified information and providing the information" as the GUI screen displayed on the display of the browser apparatus is implemented in the form of a browser window which includes a homepage display area or a first viewport in the screen for displaying a homepage supplied from the server in access, an address display area for displaying the addresses of homepages, and a menu bar 12 used by the user for selecting a variety of functions (page 2, paragraph 0041).

Tange does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "Evaluating according to an evaluation criterion based on a behavior history of each user".

Saylor teaches the transaction histories for each user may be stored by the VNAP in a data warehouse or other convenient storage system. This registration

information also facilitates the ability to conduct transactions via the VNAP. If the VNAP identifies a user based on a caller ID, and the VNAP has a profile for the user including address and credit card information, transactions may be conducted without requiring a user to enter all of this information for each transaction (column 7, lines 55 to column 8, line 13).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, having the teachings of Tange and Saylor before him/her, to modify Tange an evaluation criterion based on a behavior history of each user because that would provide a readily available medium for delivery of the right information at the right time as taught by Saylor (column 1, lines 50-55).

### Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Hwa whose telephone number is 571-270-1285. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 – 5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only, for more

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information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

10/17/2008

/James Hwa/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2163

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